FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 AUGUST 1983

Israel

After intensive contacts between Prime Minister Menahem Begin and government and party leaders attempting to persuade the prime minister to rescind his decision to resign, Begin announced that he will give a final answer late on 29 August or at noon the following day, Jerusalem radio reported. Begin had announced his intention to resign at the start of the 28 August Cabinet meeting and rejected attempts by other ministers to change his mind, according to the radio. The prime minister told confidants that he has been considering resignation "for a long time" and that he did not announce his decision one day only to revoke it the next, the radio noted. Jerusalem radio named Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir as the most likely candidate to succeed Begin and mentioned the possibility that former Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman will be asked to return to the coalition government. Noting that representatives of TAMI, the National Religious Party, and Agudat Yisra'el have reiterated their willingness to continue in partnership with Likud, Jerusalem television indicated that the formation of a new coalition headed by the opposition Alignment is unlikely.

A *Jerusalem Post* analysis of Begin's decision spoke of the prime minister's dissatisfaction with problems within his Cabinet and widespread public criticism of him and his government. Nevertheless, Begin offered no explanation of his reasons for wanting to resign beyond telling ministers: "I feel I cannot carry on shouldering my responsibilities, with things as they are, the way I would like to and the way I ought to."

Lebanon

Marines Killed in Beirut — Two U.S. Marines were killed and six others were injured by mortar fire at U.S. positions near Beirut Airport, a Marine spokesman announced on 29 August in remarks broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio. The radio said the Syrians and their allies in the mountains east of the capital were shelling Lebanese Army positions in southern Beirut in order to assist Shi'ite Amal Movement militia and other gunmen who began fighting the Army on 28 August. One Lebanese soldier was killed and 22 others were wounded in the clashes, according to Beirut radio.

The latest round of fighting erupted when the Lebanese Army intervened to impose order after Shi'ites putting up posters of Imam Musa as-Sadr came under fire from gunmen, the Voice of Lebanon said. The clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio blamed the Phalangists for initiating the clash with Amal. An Amal Movement communique reported by SANA accused the Phalangists of staging "provocations and aggressions" in southern Beirut under the "care and protection" of the Lebanese Army. The communique said 10 people were killed and 20 others were wounded in the resulting fighting. Amal gunmen set up roadblocks in the city and kidnapped several soldiers, according to Beirut and Voice of Lebanon radios.

IDF Denial on Al-Biqa' Clash — The IDF spokesman denied a Syrian announcement that Israeli tanks fired at a Syrian position in the Al-Biqa' area on 27 August, Jerusalem radio reported. The Syrian announcement, which was made by a military spokesman in a statement carried by SANA, claimed two Syrians were wounded by Israeli fire. The Syrians returned the fire, destroying an Israeli barracks, the spokesman asserted.

Political Developments — U.S. presidential envoy Robert McFarlane held intensive talks on the Ash-Shuf problem with Lebanese Government and Druze leaders in Paris, according to AFP reports over the weekend. Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt, who participated in the discussions, reaffirmed in an interview broadcast by Paris radio that the Lebanese Army must not enter Ash-Shuf unless a political agreement is reached. In other developments, Voice of Lebanon reported the Army will enter the area between 5 and 8 September, while the Israeli Defense Ministry, in a statement broadcast by Jerusalem Television, announced that the IDF's redeployment plans will be unaffected by Begin's possible resignation.

Syrian officials held talks with McFarlane's assistant Richard Fairbanks in Damascus, according to Radio Monte Carlo, and Syria's *Tishrin* warned the Phalangists in an editorial reported by Damascus radio that any attempt to solve the Ash-Shuf problem by force will be a "mad adventure." Syria will be "compelled to prevent even the mere contemplation of such a move" and will deter it with all necessary force, *Tishrin* added.

Reaction to Reagan Speech

Although President Reagan's 27 August speech reaffirming U.S. commitment to the Reagan plan underwent "various changes" because Israel had asked for certain statements to be "moderated," Israeli circles in Washington said the President's declared reservations about the settlements are "cause for concern," Jerusalem radio reported. The Amman paper *Ad-Dustur* stated that unless Reagan presses Israel to withdraw from Lebanon and to freeze the settlement program, all talk of reviving his peace plan will be a "big deception," Amman radio reported.

PLO Affairs

In the first high-level meeting between Palestinian and Jordanian officials since April, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat received in Tunis Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim and Minister of Occupied Territories Hasan Ibrahim, who delivered a message from King Husayn on the Middle East situation and the West Bank and Gaza Strip, according to Amman television and Radio Monte Carlo. 'Arafat and the two ministers discussed the 1983 PNC resolutions on developing "special and unique" relations between the Palestinians and Jordan, Radio Monte Carlo added.

Referring to the recent meeting between Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj and Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens, 'Arafat stated that officials in the "occupied territories" are "forced" to hold contacts with the civilian administration since there are matters that have to be discussed, according to an article in the Jerusalem paper *Al-Quds* cited by the Israeli paper *'Al Hamishmar*.

In Northern Lebanon the Palestinian resistance command adopted resolutions against the clashes in Tripoli between supporters of PFLP-General Command leader Ahmad Jibril and General Command dissidents, north Lebanon Voice of Palestine radio said. Further attempts to trigger incidents between Palestinians will be frustrated, the resolutions stated.

Syria

Damascus Explosion — An explosion in an office building in Damascus killed 5 people and injured 10 others, according to a brief SANA report. No further details were provided on the explosion. Voice of Lebanon radio reported that the explosion occurred outside the Syrian intelligence center, killing 8 and wounding 24 others. No fewer than 30 Syrians and Palestinians have been arrested in connection with the incident, the radio added.

Denial of U.S. Mediation — An official source denied the Egyptian magazine *October*'s reported claim that President Hafiz al-Asad has discussed Syrian-Egyptian relations with U.S. envoy McFarlane. In his statement, which was broadcast by Damascus television, the source said such reports are false, adding that Syria does not discuss its Arab relations through the United States or other third parties.

Egypt

Although both Egypt and Israel have made mistakes in the Sinai border negotiations, Israel has made many more than Egypt, including the destruction of the Israeli settlement of Yamit, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali told the Israeli paper *Yedi'ot Aharonot*. Relations between the two countries will improve when Israel solves the problem of Lebanon, Ghali stated. The minister also affirmed that Egypt wants a total Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon in order to achieve a comprehensive peace in the region, according to an interview reported by Cairo radio.

Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali told the magazine *Rose al-Yusuf* that the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv depends on Israel's efforts to make peace in the area, MENA reported. Egypt rejects Israeli settlement policy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and insists that Israel must withdraw from Jerusalem and the Golan Heights as well as link withdrawal from the Golan to a timetable for the total withdrawal of its forces from Lebanon, 'Ali Stated.

Libya-Chad

In a communique broadcast by the clandestine Radio Bardai, the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) "unreservedly" condemned the idea of federation expressed by French President Francois Mitterrand in an interview published in *Le Monde*. The GUNT agrees to a "sincere and definitive reconciliation" with Chadian President Hissein Habre but the French troops must withdraw before negotiations begin, the communique stated. Commenting on Mitterrand's "justifications" to *Le Monde* for intervening in Chad, JANA called French policy "dishonest" and asserted that Mitterrand has shown his hostility toward Islam in Africa by exercising the "imperialist" policy in the region.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir denied that Israeli military advisers have been sent to Chad, according to Jerusalem radio's English service. Meanwhile, mercenaries are being recruited in Belgium although it is not known which side in the Chadian conflict is doing the recruiting, AFP said.

Gulf States

The GCC states insist on protecting and defending their security without any foreign interference, GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah told the Kuwaiti paper *AL-Qabas* after the recent GCC Ministerial Council meeting. The official also told KUNA that the GCC decided to suspend economic and other aid to any country restoring diplomatic relations with Israel.

Pilgrimage Dispute

It would be "irrational" for Saudi authorities to expect Iranian pilgrims not to protest against the United States and Israel during the hajj ceremonies, the representative of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni in Mashhad told visiting pilgrim tour leaders 25 August, according to IRNA. In Saudi Arabia "thousands" of Iranian pilgrims shouted slogans against the United States and Israel during ceremonies in Al-Madinah, IRNA reported. Although Saudi police set up strict security measures during the ceremonies, there were no incidents, IRNA added.

Meanwhile, a responsible Saudi source cited by SPA rejected recent claims by the Iranian civil aviation minister that the Kingdom is obstructing Iranian pilgrims by limiting the number of Iranian airlines flights into the country during the hajj period. He affirmed that the usual arrangements were made with Iran to facilitate the pilgrims' visit.

Iran

Hijacked Air France Plane — The four Lebanese who hijacked an Air France plane threatened to take off from Tehran Airport immediately if France does not meet their demands for the release of "friends" imprisoned in France and an "apology" for French policies in Chad, Lebanon, and Iraq, IRNA reported. The hijackers stated earlier that they would blow up the plane if the demands were not met. Commenting on the incident to IRNA, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi recalled the French Government attitude when an Iranian plane was hijacked to France in July, stating that the big powers unfortunately seem to react sympathetically to these incidents "when it is in their interests."

Tudeh Leader Appearance — Tudeh Party leader Nureddin Kianuri gave an interview on Tehran television 27 August in which he deplored the party's past dependence on the USSR and its attempts to push the country into the socialist camp. He denied that drugs, torture, or any pressure had been used to make him and other party leaders change their views. Kianuri concluded the interview by urging young people not to follow the Tudeh's past policies and to "act responsibly."

The USSR has continued its "unsavory propaganda" campaign against Iran with attempts to justify the Tudeh Party's "treacherous" behavior, IRNA said. However, Moscow has remained silent on the Kianuri television interview, IRNA added.

Cabinet Ministers Approved — The Majlis approved the appointments of the new ministers of commerce and of labor and social welfare but three other ministerial candidates failed to gain the necessary number of votes for confirmation, Tehran radio reported.

Musavi on Narcotics — The superpowers support drug trafficking in Iran in an attempt to undermine the country, Prime Minister Musavi told police during ceremonies in Tehran, according to IRNA.

Pakistan

President Mohammad Ziaul Haq told journalists before leaving for Turkey that the situation is under control and the "handful" of people involved in the violence will be "dealt with sternly and will be completely rooted out," Karachi radio reported. A Karachi official cited earlier by AFP stated that the government "is not disposed to negotiate" while an underground opposition leader also declared a lack of interest in a dialogue with government, saying that the protests will continue.

Police leave was canceled in Sind Province as the civil disobedience campaign entered its third week, AFP reported. The Defense Ministry denied claims that the Army had been deployed in the province, asserting that the police were handling the protests, AFP said. Despite government statements that the situation was calm, continued agitation was reported along with "minor signs of dissidence" in the Punjab region, AFP added. Meanwhile, police arrested members of former Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto's family shortly before a mass rally at his grave, AFP said. Later police used teargas to disperse marchers from Bhutto's grave to his home village while a crowd attacked public buildings in the village.

An editorial published in the Karachi paper *Dawn* deplored the violence but stated that those who gave themselves up for arrest or who were arrested for shouting slogans should be considered political prisoners and should not be treated as common criminals, the paper added.

Afghanistan

The leader of an anti-Soviet rebel group vowed to offer "all possible resistance" against a Soviet-U.S. "plot" to bring former King Mohammad Zaher Shah back into power, according to an interview in the Pakistani paper *Jasarat* cited by IRNA.

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South Asia

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AFP: Border With Pakistan Sealed, Patrols Intensified

BK291553 Hong Kong AFP in English 1545 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] New Delhi, Aug. 29 (AFP) — Indian security forces have sealed the border with Pakistan in northern Jammu and Kashmir State and intensified round-the-clock patrols following repeated attempts by supporters of Pakistan's Movement for Restoration of Democracy (MRD) to cross over to india. A senior officer, quoted by *The Hindu* daily, said today in state capital Srinagar that on August 19, over 3,000 agitators who were being chased by Pakistani soldiers crossed over to India from the Sialkot sector of Pakistan.

Indian security forces arrested them immediately for interrogation and then pushed them back, the sources said.

At least 40 people have been killed and nearly 10,000 arrested since the campaign for the restoration of the democracy against the martial law regime of General Mohammad Ziaul Haq began two weeks ago in Pakistan.

More Reported on Gandhi's Remarks on Pakistan

BK261404 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] The prime minister has expressed grave concern over the events in Pakistan. Mrs Gandhi said India does not want to interfere in the internal affairs of any other country, but it has always condemned and shall ever condemn acts of inhumane treatment, whether these take place in this country or outside. She was addressing the general body meeting of the Congress-I parliamentary party in New Delhi today. The prime minister spoke of the possible repercussions in our country of such events happening in the neighborhood. She said: We cannot just keep our eyes closed. The people of Pakistan have been struggling for democracy as they had enjoyed it for a very small period. India, Mrs Gandhi said, stands for democracy.

Mrs Gandhi also expressed anguish about the treatment meted out by the Pakistani rulers to the aged Badshah Khan [Frontier Gandhi Khan Abdul Affar Khan]. She described him as a great freedom fighter and the symbol of democracy and said it cannot be imagined that a person of his age could lead an agitation or be a threat to any country. Mrs Gandhi said Badshah Khan is unnecessarily being harrassed.

Mrs Gandhi referred to the treatment given to Begum Bhutto and her daughter and said she had written to President Zia against the acts of torture meted out to the wife of the former prime minister. She said letters are being received by her from collegemates of Miss Bhutto from London saying that she is badly suffering. Mrs Gandhi said she had condemned the hanging of Mr Bhutto in 1978, not because he was a friend of hers. She pointed out that he was throughout his life opposed to her.

ISI Version

BK271435 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0834 GMT 27 Aug 83

[ISI kill: Delhi ISI Diplomatic Service at 1443 GMT on 27 August transmits a "special message," killing following item]

[Text] Prime Minister Indira Gandhi today expressed deep concern over the events in Pakistan and said that India, as a close neighbour, could not keep its "eyes closed."

Addressing the general body meeting of the Congress-I parliamentary party here, Mrs Gandhi reminded that India had never interfered in the internal affairs of other countries. "We have always condemned the inhuman treatment meted out to people irrespective of whether such acts take place in our own nation or outside," she said.

"We are moved because these have repercussions in our own country. Therefore we can not just keep our eyes closed," she said, adding that the people of Pakistan had been struggling for democracy, of which they had known only a brief spell.

"We are for democracy and shall ever be so. We have to oppose injustice everywhere. We want that there should be democracy everywhere. There is nothing improper in wishing so," she added.

Referring to octogenarian Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan, the prime minister said it was incomprehensible how he could lead a movement or agitation or be a threat to any regime just at the age of 92. She said Frontier Gandhi was being unnecessarily harassed. She expressed deep concern over the treatment meted out to him by the Pakistani rulers.

Describing Badshah Khan as a great freedom fighter, the prime minister said: "He is so ill and so old that it is beyond our imagination to believe that a person of 92 years of age can lead a movement or agitation or prove a threat to any regime." She observed that, if by living outside jail, Badshah Khan could move masses to struggle for their rights, it would make little difference by confining him within the jail's boundary wall. Wishing him well, Mrs Gandhi added that Badshah Khan was "no doubt a symbol of freedom and democracy."

Mrs Gandhi said India had always condemned political killings even if such incidents were to happen in this country. She referred to the hanging of former Pakistan President Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto. She pointed out that some time back she had written to Pakistan President Ziaul Haq expressing concern about the torture of Begum Nusrat Bhutto.

Referring to the recent happenings in Sri Lanka which resulted in the loss of life and property, the prime minister said India was doing its best to see that appropriate steps were taken by the government of that island state to create an atmosphere in which all sections could live in peace and brotherliness.

"We should not try to provoke others because that will aggravate the situation," the prime minister said While referring to the complaints from MP's in Tamil Nadu that she had not condemned violence against minority Tamils in Sri Lanka in strong terms.

Mrs Gandhi was of view that India was totally opposed to violent acts and incidents within or outside the country. She said there were people of Indian origin living in Sri Lanka for a long time whereas Sinhalese, according to reports, were not aboriginals of that country but had gone there from Bengal. "The ethnic violence in Sri Lanka has affected a large number of people irrespective of whether they were Sinhalese, Tamils, South Indians or others. This is a matter of deep concern to us," she added.

"What we want is that the life and property of the people in Sri Lanka should be protected since it is their right," she added.

Mrs Gandhi criticised the opposition for misguiding the general public and carrying on a propaganda that preparations were on for a midterm poll.

She pointed out that her attempts to check or set right the electoral rolls was being misconstructed [as received] by opposition as signs for an early midterm poll.

Referring to the Mandal Committee report on backward classes, the prime minister said this was being studied in depth.

Delhi Clarification

BK271625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Inaccurate reports appeared in the newspapers today about the references made by the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, at a meeting of the Congress-I Party in parliament yesterday. According to official sources, the prime minister referred to the events in Pakistan in the context of India's desire for peace and stability in all the countries of our neighborhood because developments there necessarily have repercussions in India.

Mrs Gandhi had said India has always disapproved of violence and injustice, and that is why she had criticized the execution of Mr Bhutto, the treatment meted out to Begum Bhutto and Miss Benazir Bhutto, and the arrest of Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan. The people of Pakistan have for a long time been demanding democracy and struggling for it. She said while we are sad at the total situation in that country and could not close our eyes to what happened, we have no desire to interfere. Mrs Gandhi also hoped that solutions would be found which would enable people there to live in peace.

'Official Sources Puzzled' by Pakistani Protest

BK281652 Hong Kong AFP in English 1635 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] New Delhi, Aug. 28 (AFP) — Official sources here were "surprised, puzzled and bewildered" by the statement of the Pakistan Foreign Office over India's expression of concern at the current developments in that country, according PTI news agency today.

The Pakistan Foreign Office had yesterday termed as "regrettable" the statements made by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao. Mr Rao referred to the Pakistani developments in parliament a few days ago, and Mrs Gandhi expressed India's concern over the happenings in Pakistan while addressing the Congress (I) parliamentary party meeting on Friday.

'Strong Resentment' Conveyed to PRC Over Article

BK271629 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] New Delhi has conveyed strong resentment to the Chinese Government over the sharp attack on Jawaharlal Nehru and Mrs Gandhi in a Chinese publication entitled *World Affairs*. It has urged Beijing not to allow publication of such highly objectionable material in the interest of Sino-Indian friendship. According to a report, the magazine has now withheld the second installment of the anti-Indian article.

Akali Dal 'Volunteers' Storm Office in Amritsar

BK290749 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] In Amritsar, the police had to use tear gas shells when Akali Dal volunteers waving swords and lathis [batons] cut down the outer barricades and tried to storm the deputy commissioner's office. Our special correspondent, (Rajendra Singh Shah), reports that agitators also resorted to brickbatting and broke some windowpanes of the office. The Akali agitators are now squatting on the lawns of the office and holding a meeting there.

The deputy commissioner, Mr (Gurdev Singh), told our correspondent that the situation in the Amritsar district and city is fully under control. He also said the entire staff of his office is on duty.

Zia Leaves for Ankara, Views Domestic Situation

BK290609 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0500 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said relations between Pakistan and Turkey are ideal and his visit to Turkey will help in further strengthening them. He was talking to newsmen prior to his departure for Ankara on a 6-day state visit to Turkey [words indistinct].

The president said the two countries desire to further strengthen relations at all levels and in all fields. He said during his visit he will exchange views with President Kenan Evren on important international issues, including the Afghanistan situation, the Iran-Iraq war, the Middle East, and other issues affecting the region or a number of nations.

About the situation in the country, the president said by the grace of God the situation is under control and only a handful of elements, who have been rejected by the Pakistani peoples, are involved in violence. He warned that such elements, instigated by certain politicians and dancing to the tune of their foreign patrons, will not be allowed to succeed in their abominable plans. They will be dealt with sternly and will be completely rooted out. He said violence in politics will not be tolerated under any circumstances. The president regretted that instead of playing a positive role in connection with his announcement of the program before the Federal Advisory Council, a handful of elements have begun subversive activities by misleading the patriotic and innocent people of Pakistan. These elements are damaging government property under the cover of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy. This so-called movement is reaching its end and there have been no incidents worth mentioning in the country during the last 2 days, he added.

In reply to a question, the president said he maintains continuous contact with responsible politicians and the patriotic people representing all walks of life. In reply to another question, he said there is no program for his [word indistinct] meeting with politicians.

Later, the president was given a warm sendoff when he left for Ankara. Those present at the airport included Federal Council Chairman Khwaja Mohammad Safdar, federal ministers and councillors, diplomatic representatives, and high civil and military officials.

AFP Account

BK290937 Hong Kong AFP in English 0906 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] Islambad, Aug. 29 (AFP) — Pakistani leader General Mohammad Ziaul Haq today ruled out a dialogue with the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), an opposition coalition that has been leading a two-week-old campaign of civil disobedience. The MRD leadership was "riff raff" which intended to create chaos in Pakistan, Gen. Zia, looking haggered and preoccupied, said before leaving for a six-day official visit to Turkey that was to be followed by a brief pilgrimage to Mecca in Saudi Arabia.

"I only talk with responsible politicians," he said, adding that violence would not be tolerated in Pakistani political life.

Referring to a reported decrease in violence in Sind Province, the campaign's seat, the Pakistani president said he was glad "these incidents (by) only a handful of disruptive elements doing it for money in the hands of foreign masters have been on the decline these last days." He said he would visit the troubled province after his return from abroad.

Gen. Zia's scheduled [word indistinct] abroad was hailed by government officials as "business as usual" and proof of the regime's stability, a view which foreign observers here considered far from justified. They point to the fact that the trip was cut from a planned ten days to six days. The general's departure today also coincided with a call by MRD for a general strike in Sind for Saturday, September 3, and appeals to its supporters to protest against the death of some [number indistinct) people since the campaign began.

The campaign, which today enters its third week, has seen some 10,000 people arrested, according to an opposition spokesman. The best-known MRD leaders have been arrested and military tribunals are under orders to flog detained militants. Among the arrested are 11 members of the family of hanged permier Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto. The rest of the MRD leadership has gone underground to coordinate the protests.

The success of the campaign has brought a number of government officials to express private anxiety, and, Western observers said, has enabled Pakistanis to speak more openly about the political situation.

Two factors could decide how the trial of strength between the MRD and the government develops — whether the protests will spread to Punjab, the country's wealthiest and most influential province, and whether the campaign will be joined by students, workers and lawyers. But few people believe that, in the short term, there will be a change of regime here or a sign of flexibility by Gen. Zia to bring forward the return of democracy for Pakistan, scheduled in 18 months.

Indian Leaders' Statements Protested; Envoy Summoned

BK271618 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Pakistan has lodged a protest with the Indian Government over the statements made by the Indian prime minister and external affairs minister and has described it as interference in its internal affairs. The Indian ambassador in Islamabad was summoned to the Foreign Office today and the Pakistani foreign secretary told him that the statements of the Indian leaders are prejudicial to internationally recognized laws, the UN Charter, the Simla Agreement, and the declaration of the South Asian foreign ministers.

The Indian ambassador was also told that the Indian Government is fully aware that Pakistan is fully committed to the principle of noninterference. Pakistan has refrained from official statements on events that had taken place in various parts of

India, although all over the world concern and sympathy were expressed on humanitarian grounds over these incidents. The Indian ambassador also was told that the Pakistani Government hoped that the Indian Government would reciprocate the spirit expressed by Pakistan and would refrain from issuing such statements because, only in this way could the objective of establishing friendly and harmonious relations be achieved.

The Indian ambassador assured the foreign secretary that the Pakistani Government's protest would be conveyed to the Indian Government.

A Foreign Office spokesman said in Islamabad today that the statements of the Indian Government leaders are extremely regrettable and hostile. The Indian Government, through such statements has adopted a conflicting attitude which will hurt mutual understanding and confidence. He said noninterference in each other's affairs is the responsibility of all nations under the UN Charter and the international norm. Pakistan and India have especially recognized in the Simla Agreement that for good neighborly relations it is necessary to implement the principles of respect for each other's sovereignty and noninterference in internal affairs.

The spokesman said violations of these recognized principles can hurt the spirit of better understanding and cooperation between neighboring states. He emphasized that the Pakistani Government strictly implemented the principle of noninterference and exhibited extreme restraint, even when the grave concern was being expressed by Pakistani public opinion on incidents taking place in various parts of India. The spokesman said that, if this policy is only unilaterally implemented, then it cannot be successful. The spokesman said: If both countries acted in the same spirit, then harmony and cooperation could be expected instead of conflict and confrontation, adding that confrontation had hurt the bilateral relations in the past.

'Public Opinion Leaders' Support Protest

BK290323 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] Leaders of public opinion have expressed anger and indignation at Indian leaders' statements which constitute interference in Pakistan's internal affairs.

Members of the Federal Advisory Council Sardar Jam Paracha, Begum Bilquis Shahbaz, Mir Nawaz Marwat, and Sardar Asif Ali have taken strong exception to these statements and fully support Pakistan's protest to India. Seventeen prominent lawyers and members of the district bar association of Dera Ismail Khan also have described these statements as open interference in Pakistan's internal affairs and a serious violation of relations between governments. Three prominent tribal chiefs and religious leaders, Mian Abdul Hakeem of (Kasai Maimond) Agency, Shaifurullah Khan Afridi of Khyber Agency, and Mian Shah Jahan of Bajaur Agency have said in their statements that the situation in Pakistan is very peaceful compared to the situation in India. Others who have denounced the Indian leaders' statements include the president of the Northwest Frontier Province Chamber of Commerce and Industry,Hajj Noor Mohammad, and a prominent religious leader, Maulana Yaqub Al-Qasmi.

'Strong Exception' Taken

BK271156 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Leaders of public opinion of Pakistan have taken strong exception to the statements of Indian Government leaders and termed (?them) as a gross interference in the internal affairs of Pakistan. In a statement in Lahore, Mian Tufail Mohammad said these Indian statements are malicious attempts to make political gains out of the mischief of agents and provocateurs in the country. Pakistan, he pointed out, had always abided by the international norms of conduct and (?refrained) from commenting on the internal situation in India.

A veteran leader of the freedom movement, Mr Husain Imam, has said the Indian external affairs minister's statement is uncalled for and against all the established norms of international relations. In a statement in Karachi today, he said whatever happens in Sind or elsewhere in Pakistan is a concern of the people and the government of this country.

Maulana Abdus Sattar Khan Niazi in Lahore said it is not fair to discuss our internal affairs. He said Pakistan had never interfered in the internal affairs of India. He urged the people to forge unity in the ranks and to make Pakistan impregnable. Maulana (Syed Hamed Mian) said they could not tolerage interference in our internal affairs and they condemned it forcefully.

A federal councillor, Mr Rahmatullah Khan Durrani, has condemned the Indian external affairs minister's statement and said Pakistan has never interfered with domestic affairs of that country. A former judge of the Lahore High Court (Shaikh Shaukat Ali) has also condemned the statement of the Indian foreign minister. A former Pakistani ambassador to East Germany, Mr Abid Zahid, condemning the statement, said interfering in the domestic affairs of other countries was against international norms and conventions.

Defense Ministry Denies Indian Reports on Sind

BK261630 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] A Defense Ministry spokesman today strongly denied today's morning broadcast by All-India Radio, which said that a large number of Pakistani soldiers are being sent to Sind. The spokesman described this All-India Radio broadcast as highly malicious and totally false.

The leaders of public opinion have taken strong notice of the remarks made by India's external affaris minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, and the Indian parliament on Pakistan's internal affairs. These leaders of public opinion have appealed to the government to lodge a strong protest with the Indian Government in this connection.

A prominent leader of the Pakistan Movement, (Mian Mumtax Mohammad Khan Daultana), has said in a statement that Mr Rao's remarks are not only open interference in the internal affairs of a neighboring country, but they are also violations of international discipline and recognized principles. Such remarks by the Indian leaders, he said, may prove to be an obstacle in the way of current efforts to normalize relations between the two countries. Pakistan has always scrupulously observed the principles of noninterference and has been very cautious in this regard. The Government of India should observe utmost care and foresight in making statements about Pakistan's internal affairs.

A prominent educator and writer, Professor (Ashfaque Ali Khan), has described the Indian external affairs minister's statement as a clear violation of the Simla Agreement. Lahore Municipal Corporation mayor, (Mian Shujaur Rahman), has said that the government should not ignore India's attitude and lodge a strong protest against it. A member of the Federal Advisory Council, Chowdhury Mohammad Ilyas described Mr Rao's remarks as an open violation [khilaf warzi] of the internal affairs of Pakistan.

District Magistrates Issue Press Notes 27-29 Aug

BK271634 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] A press note issued by the district magistrate of Sanghar says that some people assembled at (Idgah Shahdadpur) outside the city today. After offering funeral prayers, these people indulged in unlawful activities and started throwing stones at two bank branches and one shop. The police dispersed them.

After some time, citizens of (Shahdadpur) protested the stone throwing. The police assured them protection. So far 29 people have been arrested and the situation is under control.

The Sanghar submartial law administrator, deputy commissioner and superintendent of police visited (Shahdadpur) and assured the citiens that all measures are being taken to protect private and public property from destruction.

A press note issued by the district magistrate of Quetta says the situation in Quetta City remained normal today and no untoward incident was reported. Everyday business continued in most parts of the city. However, the press note adds, shops were (?partially) closed on Liaqat Bazar, Iqbal Road, and Jinnah Road. Traffic flowed normally and public transport movement was also normal.

Railway Station Attacked

BK280633 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] A press note issued by the Sukkur district magistrate says that an armed group last night attacked the (Kuwa) railway station near (Dharke). Police stationed there resisted the attackers. In an exchange of fire, one constable received minor injuries. The press note adds that the mischievous elements fled after damaging a section of the office. Investigations continue.

A summary military court in Multan sentenced one person to 1 year rigorous imprisonment and fined him 25,000 rupees for the violation of martial law regulations No 13 and 33.

Violence Reported

BK281543 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] A press note issued by the district magistrate of Thatta says that this morning about 400 to 500 people gathered at (Sajawal) and, despite the subdivisional magistrate's warning and instruction to disperse peacefully, they tried to stage an unlawful demonstration. Some mischievous elements in the demonstration became violent and started pelting stones and breaking windowpanes of a bank. Police resorted to a baton charge to maintain law and order and also used tear gas to disperse the crowd. The situation was brought under control and arrests were made on the spot. The situation in other parts of the district remained normal.

According to a prss note issued by the Hyderabad district magistrate, students of the Tando Jam Agriculture University gathered in the campus at about 0800 this morning and tried to come out on the streets. When the magistrate on duty stopped them from doing so, a student group started throwing stones. Tear gas had to be used to disperse the crowd, and the situation was brought under control. No damage to property or personal injury has been reported.

In the Hyderabad City, some students of the government boys high school came out on a street and started throwing stonesat vehicles, slightly damaging a bus of the Sind Road Transport Corporation. Police, without using force, dispersed the crowd.

'Unruly Mob' in Naudero

BK290225 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] A press note issued by the Larkana district magistrate says that an unruly mob in Naudero Township yesterday attacked government buildings, including the National Bank, the office of the Irrigation Department, the inspection bungalow, the office of Ushr and Zaka Committee, and the post office. The mob also tried to set fire to furniture and records in some of these buildings, causing slight damage. The police have arrested 11 people in this connection and further investigations are in progress. The situation is now under control.

AFP Reportage on Civil Disobedience Campaign

Police Leave Canceled in Sind

BK261040 Hong Kong AFP in English 1028 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Islamabad, Aug. 26 (AFP) — All police leave has been cancelled in the troubled Province of Sind, the seat of a national civil disobedience campaign called 12 days ago by opponents of Pakistan's military regime, reliable sources said today. The move came as the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy

(MRD), an opposition coalition, scheduled a meeting tomorrow in Khairpur, in Sind Province, to decide "a second line of action."

The meeting could be critical for the success of the protest campaign, which has given a psychological boost recently in an appeal, attributed to Begun Nusrat Bhutto, former prime minister Ali Bhutto's widow, to "rise up" against the regime. If the mass demonstrations in Sind fail to ignite in Punjab, Pakistan's wealthiest province, the MRD will have difficulties in keeping up its pressure on the government. But there was a sign of encouragement for the MRD with yesterday's reports. Violence lessened in Sind, while a call for peaceful protests was still widely followed.

In the Punjab city of Multan, several thousand people took to the streets to demonstrate in support of detained MRD militants. Violence in Sind has so far caused 41 deaths and 9,000 arrests, according to MRD. Among the detained were said to be 48 members of the former National Assembly, 713 ex-senators and 63 former provincial representatives who courted arrest. Another 45,000 MRD activists and sympathisers were also claimed by MRD sources to be ready to be arrested, following the traditional Pakistani now-violent protest. Government officials gave the toll as 22 deaths and about 1,500 arrests.

Observers here said the campaign is not sufficiently widespread to be a serious threat to General Ziaul Haq and his government, but editorials in Pakistani newspapers have stressed that the protests are serious enough to warrant a political solution and can no longer be dealt with as a simple question of public order.

Student Protest in Quetta

BK271118 Hong Kong AFP in English 1102 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Islamabad, Aug. 27 (AFP) — Police shot at a group of rioting students today in Quetta, southwestern Pakistan, as the two-week-old protest movement against marial law spread to Baluchistan Province, a reliable source said here. At least one student was seriously wounded by police who opened fire after unsuccessfully trying to disperse the striking students with tear gas and baton charges, the source said. The students previously set fire to a bus and a truck, blocking traffic on Quetta's main street.

Meanwhile, government troops took up positions in the countryside of Sind Province, where the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) launched its campaign aimed at toppling the military regime of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq two weeks ago.

March From Bhutto Tomb

BK280947 Hong Kong AFP in English 0927 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] Islamabad, Aug. 28 (AFP) — Hundreds of supporters of hanged ex-prime minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto took part in a march from his tomb today as part of the campaign of civil disobedience against Pakistan's military regime. The campaign, entering its third week, had so far been unsuccessful in forcing pesident Mohammad Ziaul Haq to talk to members of banned political parties. But outbreaks of violence here reported from Sind Province in the south, where marchers today progressed from the tomb of the former premier, hanged in 1979 after General Zia seized power, to his home village.

The army's deputy chief of staff, General Saraar Khan, had been in the province since yesterday coordinating the maintenance of law and order, still officially the job of the police.

In Islamabad, according to the government, it was "business as usual." Officials said the fact that General Zia's official visit to Turkey is going ahead was proof of the government's stability. However, the general, who leaves for Turkey tomorrow, has cut the planned length of his stay from 10 to six days.

Authorities seemed to want to avoid at all costs a confrontation with the protesters, being led by the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy who have gone underground.

The best-known opposition leaders have been jailed and military tribunals have been told to flog arrested militants, but troops had not up to this morning been sent in to crush the campaign. Calls were being made from all sides for General Zia to be more flexible, perhaps by shortening the 18-month limit he has set for the organisation of general elections, but so far he has failed to respond.

A view heard increasingly in business circles was that if Gen. Zia cannot oversee the transition to greater democracy, another leader is needed.

It appeared that two factors would decide how the trial of strength between the MPD and the government develops — whether the protests affected Punjab Province and whether the campaign was joined by students, workers and lawyers. So far the only unrest in the Punjab had been a number of "voluntary arrests" in which politicians from the former Bhutto government offered themselves for arrest.

The protest regime had delayed the start of the university year by three weeks at Peshawar and could do likewise in Pakistan's three other provinces, thus avoiding student riots.

Public service workers had been demonstrating in Lahore every other day but strikes were no longer mentioned. But lawyers are due to meet in Lahore on Tuesday for a national conference, when they will (?decide) if they are prepared to take to the streets in strength.

Bhutto Family Arrested

BK281530 Hong Kong AFP in English 1516 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Naudero, Pakistan, Aug 28 (AFP) — Eleven members of the family of hanged Premier Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, including his cousin Mushtaq Ali Bhutto and his two sons, were arrested here shortly before a mass rally was held today near his grave. Later police used tear gas and fired in the air to disperse hundreds of people who were marching five kilometres (three miles) from the rally point to the former premier's home village of Naudero.

The rally was part of the campaign of civil disobedience against President Mohammad Ziaul Haq's military regime.

Witnesses said all roads leading to the grave site were blocked by police and traffic was diverted away from Naudero village. All along the route marchers chanted slogans such as "Down with Zia," "Down with martial law and death to the U.S. agents." After the crowd had covered about three kilometres police moved in lobbing tear-gas shells, firing warning shots into the air before mounting baton charges, witnesses said. Official sources said five people, including three Bhutto family members were taken to the nearby city of Larkana while an unspecified number of people were detained on charges of breach of the peace and unlawful assembly.

In Naudero itself a crowd of about 100 set fire to a government rest house, attacked a bank, post office and bus depot. Paramilitary police were helping police put down the disturbances in Naudero.

In Larkana itself students forced shops to close in support of the eight party Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) spearheaded by the former premier's Pakistan Peoples Party.

Meanwhile in Islamabad, according to the government, it was "business as usual." Officials said the fact that General Zia's official visit to Turkey is going ahead was proof of the government's stability.

Police Officials Replaced

OW282138 Hong Kong AFP in English 1820 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] Islamabad, Aug. 28 (AFP) — Pakistani authorities replaced ranking police officials in southern Pakistan's Sind Province today to counter growing violence in a protest movement against the military regime of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq.

At the village of Naudero, birthplace of former Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, who was hanged in 1979 by the Zia regime, police and paramilitary troops rushed in from other provinces, arrested 11 members of the Bhutto family and fired in the air to disperse rioters attacking public buildings.

At all major provincial cities, government opponents were arrested in droves as clashes between protestors and supporters of the regime left at least 40 dead and hundreds injured since the rioting broke out on August 14.

Police in civilian dress thrashed the vice president of the Karachi Bar Association before dragging him away in a truck, a reliable source said.

The federal government "underestimated the importance of the crisis," a provincial official said. "Maintaining order is no longer a sufficient response. A political solution must be found rapidly."

Police chiefs of the Sind cities of Hyderabad, Nawatshah and Larkana were replaced by security officials from neighboring Punjab Province to reduce the risk of collusion between the police and inhabitants of the province, which includes one-fifth of the nation's population, an official said.

Both the government and leaders of the opposition Movement for Restoration of Democracy (MRD) — most of whom were under arrest — showed no signs of compromise as President Ziaul Haq prepared to depart on a state visit to Turkey tomorrow.

"The government is not disposed to negotiate. For the moment the objective is to maintain order as efficiently as possible and minimize violence," a Karachi official said.

"Dialogue does not interest us. The agitation will continue and reach Punjab Province next month," said underground MRD leader Parvaiz Saleh.

At Naudero, police barricaded all entry points into the village and used baton charges, tear gas and warning shots fired in the air to break up a five km (three mile) march to Mr Bhutto's grave, where the biggest rally in the current campaign had been scheduled.

Inside the cemetery, MRD militants recited passages from the Koran and from Mr Bhutto's speeches, against a background of posters reading "Martyr for democracy" and "Holy warrior for Islam."

Delhi Reports on MRD Demands, 4 Party Alliance

BK281618 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] In Pakistan, the Movement for Restoration of Democracy [MRD] is reported to have ruled out an unconditional dialogue with the martial law regime. But it has agreed to discuss interim arrangements pending peaceful transfer of power to the elected representatives of the people if the regime announces immediate lifting of martial law and general elections within 90 days.

In another development, four parties outside the MRD formed a separate alliance to demand restoration of democracy. The parties which decided to form the alliance after a meeting in Lahore are: Jama'at-i-Islami, Pakistan Muslim League, Jamiat-ul-Ulema-i-Islam, and Khaksar Tehrik.

As part of the civil disobedience campaign, there was a strike in Quetta, the capital of Baluchistan Province, yesterday. According to agency reports, nine persons were arrested. Reports of protests against the military rule have also come in from different parts in Sind Province, Punjab, and Northwest Frontier Province.

Interior Minister Comments on 'Disruptive Elements'

BK271045 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] The federal interior minister, Mr Mahmud A. Haroon, has said (?those) landlords in Sind who are losing the political influence are behind the so-called movement.

In an interview with the BBC in London, he said: After having failed to instigate the people in Baluchistan and Northwest Frontier Provincesagainst the present government they have now turned their attention to Sind, telling the people of the province that they have been deprived of their rights, as he put it. Mr Mahmud A. Haroon said the Movement for Restoration of Democracy wanted to create unrest and its intentions were not good. This is why it began making announcements of starting the so-called movement much before the president announced his political formula on the 12th of this month. The interior minister said the patriotic people of Sind would foil the sinister designs of the disruptive elements.

Majlis Approves Two New Cabinet Ministers 28 August

GF281708 Tehran IRNA in English 1617 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 28, IRNA — The Iranian Majlis here this afternoon approved two out of five candidates proposed for the cabinet. Those approved by the Majlis were Hassan Abedi Ja'fari as minister of commerce and Abdolqasem Sarhadizadeh as the minister of labour and social welfare. This came after several hours of debate in the open session of the Majlis.

The two ministers whose names were submitted to the Majlis last Thursday by Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi will replace Habobollah 'Asgar-Owladi and Ahmad Tavakkoli, ministers of commerce and labour respectively.

The other three candidates who failed to secure majority vote were for the posts of ministries of housing and urban development, agriculture and rural development and mines and industries.

The new minister of commerce secured 134 affirmative votes out of 189 votes, and the minister of labour secured 121 votes out of 185 votes cast.

Biographies of New Ministers

GF281744 Tehran IRNA in English 1724 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 28, IRNA — Hasan Abedi Ja'fari was elected the new commerce minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran by the Majlis securing 134 votes out of 189. Hassan Abedi, born in 1330 (1951-52) in Tehran, started his higher education in the year 1348 (1969-70) in business management in the high commercial institute of Tehran. He received his masters degree in business management from U.S. Kingsville University, and later his Ph.d in the same field.

Later on Bahman 12, 1357 (1 Feb. 1979) Hassan Abedi came to Iran along with Imam Khomeyni and started his activities serving in the committee welcoming the imam at Refah School in Tehran. Also before his assignment to the new post he served in the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) and the Commerce Ministry. His last assignment was deputy for plans and programmes affairs of the IRGC.

Abolqasem Sarhadizadeh, with 121 votes of the Majlis deputies, was elected the new labour minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Born in the year 1324 (1945-46) in Tehran he completed his secondary school in Tehran and has been politically active since the uprising of 15 Khordad 1342 (5 June 1963) and was later imprisoned for 14 years during the ex-shah's rule.

Sarhadizadeh after the victory of the Islamic revolution began serving in the IRGC and later was appointed a high ranking official in the foundation for the oppressed. His last post was member of council of prisoners affair.

Friday Prayers Leaders-Cabinet Liaison Approved

GF261703 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Qom, Aug. 26, IRNA — In a cable to Prime Minister Musavi, in response to prime minister's request for the nomination of a cabinet liaison officer for enterfacing between the cabinet and the Friday prayers leaders throughout the country, Ayatollah Montazeri's office today said that it would suffice the government to have one permanent representative for enterface with the general secretariat of the Friday prayers leaders in the country.

Ayatollah Montazeri also invited the prime minister to introduce his official representative to the general secretariat of the Friday prayers leaders for mutual collaboration between the cabinet and the Friday prayers leaders.

Reportage on Hijacked Air France Plane

Musavi Explains Landing Permit

LD282028 Tehran IRNA in English 1936 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] Tehran, Aug 28, IRNA -- Iran's Prime Minister Musavi said to IRNA minutes ago that he was hopeful the Iranian authorities at Tehran international airport would secure the release of the remaining passengers of the hijacked Air France plane.

Musavi pointed out that the Iranian authorities did not initially intend to grant landing permit to the hijacked plane, but that they eventually did so "for humanitarian reasons." The Iranian prime minister, however, said that the Islamic Republic is basically against air piracy, for its concern about the lives of innocent people. He said, however, that it is unfortunate that the world of politics where and when air piracy is committed in the interest of the big powers, the act is very much likely to be received at least with tacit approval and sympathetic response by the big powers. Chirped [as received] Musavi, "Did not the French Socialist Government do the same with hijacked plane of Iran (on July 7)?"

Deputy Foreign Minister Comments

LD282038 Tehran IRNA in English 2006 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] Tehran, Aug 28, IRNA — An official of the Iranian Foreign Ministry said to IRNA early this evening that the Islamic government adopted a "humanistic" approach to the hijacking issue because of the "inhumanistic and unlawful stand of the French Government in various parts of the world and its limitless military support for the mercenary regime in Baghdad in its war against the Islamic Republic." Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam said flatly, however, that the Iranian Government "condemns this inhumanistic acts of the high-jackers" and that it would not yield to their demands "under any circumstances." He noted that one of the highjackers speaks Persian, and reminded that they initially declared to be Tunisians and later alleged to be Lebanese

nationals but that their true nationality has yet remained unknown.

Sheykh ol-Eslam said the hijackers were a group of four, of whom two stayed in the cabin and two on the steps. He said also that there was a crew of 8 and there were 10 passengers aboard the plane who were nationals of the United States, Austria and France.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry official said that the Iranian Government will spare no effort for a peaceful ending of problem and reminded that as long as the hijackers have not released the pilot and the crew of the plane they (the hijackers) cannot reasonably expect any help from Iran "even though the French Government should have the worst behaviour."

He reminded that immediately upon entering the Iranian air space two Phantoms of the Iranian Air Force tried to prevent the aircraft from entering the Iranian territory, but that the hijacked plane was elusive and began aggressive maneuvres in the air in defiance of the order from the Iranian planes.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry official said that on Saturday the French consul in Tehran informed the Iranian Foreign Ministry that an Air France Aircraft that had been hijacked en route to Paris from Vienna and which was bound for Tehran would be "rocketed" when approaching Tehran airport.

The Iranian official did not elaborate on the statement of the French diplomat in Tehran.

Meanwhile the French charge d'affaires to Tehran Jean Perrian spoke to hijackers through the control tower. He said he would immediately convey the demands of the hijackers to Paris.

The latest report reaching here from the airport said the hijackers requested to speak for a second time through an Arabic interpreter.

Hijackers Set Political Demands

GF281740 Tehran IRNA in English 1717 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 28, IRNA — Hijackers of a Boeing 727 of Air France in Tehran international airport have demanded freedom of Lebanese captives in France by the French Government, and a stoppage of France's military support for Iraq, Lebanon and Chad, within 48 hours. The hijackers of the plane have threatened to dynamite the aircraft in the event their demands are not fulfilled.

Speaking to an Arabic interpreter in the plane, the hijackers identified themselves as being Lebanese nationals. A foreign Ministry announcement had earlier identified them as Tunisians. They also said that they want their demands to be conveyed to the French Government by the mass media. They have also said that they expect the Islamic Republic to declare its supports for the group of the hijackers or else provide them with fuel for the continuation of flight to another unspecified destination. One of the hijackers stepped down the aircraft twice until 14:30 hours GMT and talked to a Foreign Ministry official below the hijacked aircraft.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry official noted here that the Iranian officials are trying to dissuade the hijackers from dynamiting the aircraft by every possible means. He did not elaborate.

Meanwhile speaking to IRNA French charge d'affaires Jean Terrian, said he had received no news about the hijacked plane until 12:30 GMT. Asked for his view on the issue, he said apparently the Iranian authorites had given landing permit to the hijacked plane for humanitarian reasons. He said the plane's passengers were all expected to be in good condition.

French Urged To Solve Problem

LD291118 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1040 GMT 29 Aug 83

[Text] According to a report by our correspondent, at 1100 this morning the French Embassy's charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Ministry. After being briefed on the hijacking of the Air France plane, he was told that the Islamic Republic of Iran will try, as an observer and because of its humanitarian objectives, to prevent the slightest harm to the crew and passengers. However, the French Government and authorities must reach a decision and try to act to solve the existing problem as soon as possible.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the French charge d'affaires was asked to convey the matter to his government and ask it to announce the result of its decisions as soon as possible.

Tabasi: Saudis Should Expect Protest During Hajj

GF261743 Tehran IRNA in English 1725 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Text] Mashhad, Aug. 26, IRNA — The superintendent of Imam Reza, (AS) Holy Shrine Hojjat ol-Eslam Vaez Tabasi, said here last night that the Saudi Government need not feel uneasy about the presence of Iranian pilgrims in Mecca if it stops supporting the Americans and the Zionists. He said if the Saudi officials should respect the Islamic Revolution and the Iranian people (in Mecca) it will receive mutual respect by the Iranians. He said, however, that once the Saudi Government should show hostility towards the Islamic Revolution, it should not then expect a respectful behaviour based upon the spirit of Islamic brotherhood from the Iranians.

Tabasi who is also Imam Khomeyni's representative here made it clear that the Saudi Government would be irrational to expect the pilgrim Iranians to make no protest to Washington and to the Zionist regime during the approaching hajj ceremonies in Mecca.

The Hojjat ol-Eslam who was talking to a group of pilgrims tour leaders here said that the Iranians would have betrayed the world Muslim and humanity if they did not inform Muslims in Africa and the world people of the tyrannical acts of the criminal U.S. Government, and said that the members of the ulema who will be accompanying pilgrims during the hajj ceremonies have the

responsibility to make the voice of the Islamic Revolution be heard by the world people.

Pilgrims' Supervisor Leaves for Hajj Ceremonies

LD271329 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] On the eve of the great hajj, Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi Kho'ini, the imam's representative and supervisor of Iranian pilgrims, left tehran this morning for Saudi Arabia with the intention of participating in the hajj ceremonies.

Before leaving Tehran, he said at the airport: Today we are leaving for the hajj pilgrimage at a time when the world's Muslims, particularly the Middle East's Muslims, are being burned in the flames of U.S. and Israeli sedition. Unfortunately, the necessary unity does not exist among the heads of Islamic countries.

Referring to the fact that division prevents the formation of a united front against the Eastern and Western aggressors, Kho'ini commented on the propaganda programs in this year's hajj ceremonies. He said: In our private meetings with the ulema and personalities of the Islamic world, we are prepared to raise various issues and to find a way for the fight against world corruption, whose main source is America, through the exchange of views.

He added: By using the great force of the clergy, the presence of the martyrs' families and also about 100,000 Iranian pilgrims, we hope to be able to express our views which concern all the world's Muslims.

Musavi Kho'ini emphasized: The world's Muslims wish to raise the issue of the crimes committed by America and Israel and also the issue of the Soviet Union's aggression against Afghanistan. Therefore, instead of enmity and confrontation with us, the Saudi Arabian Government should make the necessary coordination in this connection, because a march staged by more than 1 million pilgrims to the house of God on 1 day and against the aggressions of America and Israel is in the interest of Muslim unity.

In conclusion, the imam's representative and supervisor of Iranian Pilgrims appealed to pilgrim sisters and brothers to observe the Islamic codes of conduct with regard to ethical issues.

ETTELA'AT: Pilgrims Shout Slogans in Al-Madinah

GF271736 Tehran IRNA in English 1722 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Text] Tehran. Aug. 27, IRNA — The outcry of thousands of Iranian pilgrims visiting the sacred mosque echoed through Al-Baqi' cemetery and the surrounding districts in Al-Madinah Thursday night as they shouted Down with the U.S. and Down with Israel, reported the Iranian daily newspaper, *Ettela'at* today.

According to the daily the Iranian pilgrims gathered in the cemetery to recite the Thursday night mass prayer of Komeyl from 11 pm to 1 o'clock am. They prayed for good health of Imam Khomeyni the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran and for the victory of the Islamic combatants in the Iraqi imposed war.

The paper said that throughout the ceremony the Saudi police set up strict security measures all around the area, but, the paper added, there were no incident.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques

Communique No 1,439

LD261744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Aug 83

[Communique No 1,439 issued by Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The proud warriors of Islam, in their brave combat against the Zionist aggressors of Iraq, continue their relentless battle. The outcome of the effort of the warriors of Islam during the past 24 hours hereby is brought to the attention of the dear compatriots.

The victorious combatants of Islam yesterday opened fire on one of the helicopters of the aggressive enemy in the Piranshah operational sector. The enemy helicopter was hit and crashed in the southern area of the Darband heights. Our combatants on these fronts opened intense artillery and other heavy weapons fire on enemy positions and units from time to time, and by silencing the fire of the Saddamist forces, completely destroyed one of the enemy tanks. Our warriors, in every sector of these fronts, by continuing further consolidation of their defensive positions, accurately checked movements and activities of the Iraqi forces.

Thanks to the intense artillery fire of the warriors of Islam on the Marivan front, positions of the Saddamists in the (Banasuteh) and (Khormal) regions and the (Daqiq) Garrison were smashed and considerable damage was inflicted on a column of Iraqi trucks. A number of the enemy were either killed or wounded.

Sporadic fire exchange continued on the border fronts of Ilam and Bakhtaran. Our victorious warriors continued defending their own positions and by opening fire on the Iraqi forces set ablaze and destroyed one of their ammunition depots. Our warriors also recognized some enemy patrol groups and opened fire on them forcing the enemy patrol to flee after suffering heavy losses.

In the course of fire exchanges on the Abadan and Khorramshah fronts, the return fire of the combatants of Islam on positions and fortifications of the Saddamists mercenaries completely destroyed more than four slit trenches and foxholes of the enemy and inflicted losses on the Iraqi forces. The fire of our combatants also silenced the artillery fire of the Saddamists and halted their engineering operations.

This morning, the Saddamist criminals launched an air raid on the city of Marivan. As a result of this barbaric raid, two of our dear compatriots were martyred and 16 of them were wounded; several houses also were destroyed.

Yesterday, the cities of Sar Dasht and Abadan came under the artillery and long range weapons fire of the Saddamist criminals. Several houses in these two cities were demolished and three inhabitants of Sar Dasht were injured. One of our dear compatriots in Abadan was martyred and five others were wounded.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,440

LD271743 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Aug 83

[Communique No 1,440 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Exchanges of artillery and mortar fire continued in the Piranshah operational sector during the past 24 hours. In this sector, Islam's combatants brought enemy vehicle and troop movement under their control by dispatching ambush and patrol groups and by heavy weapons fire, inflicting losses and casualties on the Saddamist troops.

On the Bakhtaran fronts, four enemy patrol groups trying to penetrate our forces' positions were located in time and as a result of our forces' fire, a number of them were killed and wounded; the rest fled. Also, in the region opposite Sumar, a number of enemy troops were located digging trenches, erecting barriers, and and planting mines. As a result of our troops' fire,they fled.

Exhcanges of fire continued yesterday on the southern fronts. During that period, our combatants units opened constant and heavy fire and stopped the enemy infantry's patrols and observation missions in Koshkh's western region. Enemy engineering activities in west of the Zeyd border post were also halted.

Abadan's civilian quarters came under the enemy's long- range weapon fire yesterday, as a result of which three houses and one shop sustained damage.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,441

LD281822 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Aug 83

[Communique No 1,441 issued by Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Yesterday exchanges of artillery and heavy weapons fire on the operational fronts of Piranshah continued sporadically and our victorious combatants, continuing to consolidate their defensive positions, kept a check on the movements and activities of the Iraqi forces.

Near Darband Heights, our forces opened fire on a number of Iraqi forces who were fortifying their defense lines and were carrying out engineering operations and thus succeeded in stopping their activities and inflicting casualties on them.

In the border region of Baneh, as a result of our forces' artillery fire, a number of enemy vehicles were destroyed or severely damaged. A number of Saddamist mercenaries were killed.

On the border fronts of Bakhtaran and Ilam, our forces continued to defend their positions and opened defensive fire on the enemy's infantry and artillery units. They also succeeded in killing or wounding more than 35 of the Iraqi forces and destroyed 2 trucks and several individual and collective entrenchments by setting fire to them.

Our forces sent patrol groups to the areas along enemy defense lines. These groups made a reconaissance of the area and dealt blows to Iraqi mercenary forces.

On the southern fronts of the country, exchanges of fire between our forces and that of the enemy continued sporadically and the powerful forces of Islam, while guarding the areas under their protection, opened artillery and heavy weapons fire on the enemy, sent out patrol missions, and inflicted damages and casualties on the aggressive Iraqi forces.

Our forces crushed all enemy activities and troop movements in all regions. According to the reports received, the enemy suffered the loss of 4 trucks and 30 dead and wounded.

Yesterday, as a result of artillery fire of the criminal Saddamist mercenaries the city of Abadan sustained some damage and four houses were damaged.

During the past 24 hours, the selfless combatants of the Air Force and antiaircraft defense units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran have repelled all enemy air raid attempts by the aggressive planes of the Zionist Iraqi Armed Forces in the western and southern regions of the country.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Velayati-Led Delegation Visits Syria

For Damascus and Tehran reportage on the visit of Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr 'Ali Akhbar Velayati to Syria, including his meetings with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and with Fatah dissidents, see the Syria section of the 25 August Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.